

JOE WISE JR  
Mayor

# City of Sheridan

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

MARION L CAMP  
City Recorder-Treasurer

August 13, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the matter of improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band, WT Docket No. 02-55 (Ex Parte)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The City of Sheridan is writing to express its opposition to Nextel's so-called "Consensus Plan" and to urge the FCC to adopt the "Balanced Approach," which was filed on May 29, 2003. We believe that the Consensus Plan will unnecessarily jeopardize Public Safety communication systems. Instead the FCC should adopt a solution, such as the Balanced Approach, that does not require Public Safety licensees to relocate and does not reduce their interference protection.

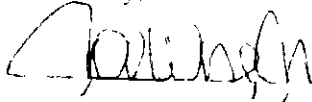
We are concerned that the Consensus Plan's relocation process is extremely complicated and there is no guarantee that Public Safety licensees will be able to continually operate their communications systems during this process. Furthermore, it is unrealistic to expect all Public Safety licensees to relocate in twelve months or less given the complexity of some Public Safety systems.

Many Public Safety communication systems do not meet the signal strength and receiver requirements of the Consensus Plan and it is unfair that they will have to expend significant resources to ensure that they are protected from interference. Also, as I understand, the interference situation could be worse if rebanding is not completed before Nextel's funding runs out.

Therefore, the City of Sheridan, Arkansas supports the Balanced Approach taking the pro-active steps to immediately deal with Public Safety interference by relying on technical solutions and increased enforcement. As a result, the Balanced Approach is less disruptive and less expensive so Public Safety communications will not be jeopardized.

Your considerations to our concerns will be very much appreciated and we urge the FCC to adopt the Balanced Approach.

Sincerely,



Joe Wise, Jr.  
Mayor  
City of Sheridan

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